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The MILFORD DAILY NEWS

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The gymnasium at Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School was filled to capacity for the Special Town Meeting on May 20. PHOTOS BY JOHN WALKER/DAILY NEWS

Sudbury Special Town Meeting draws crowd

Caroline Bunnell
The MetroWest Daily News | USA TODAY NETWORK

Nearly 1,000 residents filled the Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School gymnasium on Wednesday, May 20, for a lengthy and highly anticipated Special Town Meeting.

Newly appointed Town Clerk Lisa Davis said the 956 voters processed was about four times the typical 200 to 300 attendees at previous Town Meetings. The meeting began about 8 p.m., an hour later than scheduled due to parking delays, and adjourned at 12:06 a.m. Thursday.

Residents were asked to vote on four citizen petitions, with Articles 3 and 4 generating the most debate.

Article 3 proposed establishing recall procedures for town officials, allowing voters to remove an elected official before their term ends. The article passed, 677-261.

Article 4 called for a symbolic vote of no-confidence in the Sudbury School Committee. That also passed, 452-295.

Sudbury Town Moderator Cate Blake speaks at the podium, while Town Clerk Lisa Davis makes some notes, during the Special Town Meeting at the LSRHS gymnasium on May 20.

Petition sparked no-confidence effort

Public attention to the vote of no-confidence began in March, when a citizen petition circulated by residents generated more than 500 signatures and raised concerns about the School Committee's governance practices, transparency and adherence to state laws. The petition targeted four of the committee's five members — then-Chair Karyn Jones, current Chair Jessica McCready, Elizabeth Sues and Julie Durgin-Sicree.

According to the warrant, petitioners also cited concerns about conflict-of-interest rules and potential Open Meeting Law violations.

"The actions of the current School Committee have demonstrated a pattern of conduct inconsistent with the standards of transparency, integrity, and

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Hopkinton restaurant will close after 93 years

Joanna K. Tzouvelis
Wicked Local | USA TODAY NETWORK

The Town of Hopkinton will purchase a 10.88-acre parcel off Route 85 that contains the 93-year-old Carbone's Restaurant, which will close next month, according to a town official.

Assistant Town Manager Lance DelPriore told Wicked Local on Thursday, May 21, that the town will acquire the 280 Cedar St. (Route 85) property for $1.8 million and use it to build a water supply pump station. The restaurant building will be demolished to accommodate the project, which will include the building of a pump station for connection to the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority system and future water supply infrastructure, a generator and parking area.

Annual Town Meeting on May 2 approved $2 million for the purchase of the property, although about $185,000 in Community Preservation Act funds will

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Family files $1M suit against Town of Natick, bus company

Norman Miller
The MetroWest Daily News | USA TODAY NETWORK

A family has filed a lawsuit against the Town of Natick, the bus company to which its school district contracts and a bus driver, alleging their 5-year-old daughter was indecently assaulted on a school bus by an older student.

The family, identified as John, Jane and Child Doe in the lawsuit filed May 4 in Middlesex Superior Court by their lawyer, George King, alleges the school and bus company failed to protect their daughter while downplaying the incident as nothing more than a childhood game of "doctor."

The suit seeks $1 million — $200,000 for past and future medical and hospital expenses and $800,000 for "traumatic experience, loss of consortium, unknown future impacts, need for long-term counseling and emotional distress."

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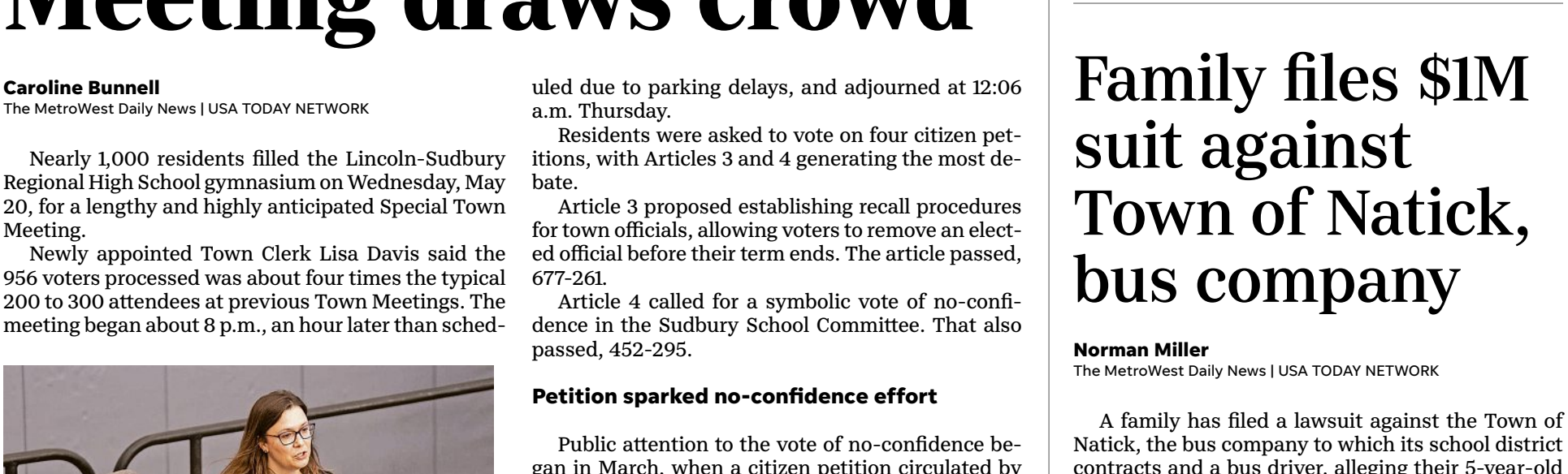

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